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VOL. I. NO. 4 BULLETIN OF THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF EVANGELICALS FOR UNITED ACTION NOV. 1, 1942

MANY DISTRICT ASSOCIATIONS ORGANIZE AS CHURCH LEADERS EXPRESS ENTHUSIASM

Organization Of Eleven Districts Completed

NOVEMBER REGIONAL CONFERENCES

More time being required for adequate preparation, all conferences for November previously announced tentatively have been deferred to February, except the following:

Nov. 10, Washington, D.C., Metropolitan Baptist Church. Sessions at 10:30 A. M., 2:00 and 7:30 P. M. Dr. Fraser, of Baltimore, Chairman of District Committee.

Dr. C. E. Hawthorne Chairman in charge of local arrangements.

Nov. 11, Salisbury, N. C., First Presbyterian Church. Sessions at 10:30 A. M., and 7:30 P. M. Dr. Charles Woodbridge, Chairman.

"INFORMATION MEETINGS"

For The National Association Of Evangelicals For United Action Held At Schenectady

On the morning of September 28th, the members of the Ministerial Association heard Dr. Harold John Ockenga present the cause of the National Association of Evangelicals for United Action. Dr. Ockenga was present at their invitation. Following the address, questions were asked for nearly an hour. A splendid attitude was manifest by all present, and there was a deep interest in the new movement.

At the supper hour, the Christian Men's Fellowship convened at the First Presbyterian Church and was addressed by Dr. Ockenga, following which there were many questions asked. This splendid body of laymen was exceedingly interested in the work of the Association.

At eight o'clock, a rally was held at the Tabernacle Baptist Church, addressed by Dr. Ockenga and Dr. Clarence S. Roddy, of Brooklyn. A large number of preachers were present, and the church was filled with sympathetic auditors. A high point of enthusiasm was reached under the preaching of Dr. Roddy, who delivered a masterly evangelistic sermon.

The National Association of Evangelicals had no intention of forming a regional body at Schenectady, but was heartened by the large number of friends discovered in that community.

REBELS AGAINST THE YOKE

Message delivered before the Ohio District Convocation of the National Association of Evangelicals for United Action held at the Deshler-Wallick Hotel, Columbus, Ohio, Sept. 21, 1942.

BY BISHOP LESLIE R. MARSTON

"Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light."—Matthew 11:28-30.

Strange it seems, no doubt, that the speaker this morning in a call to revival should announce as his theme-passage these gracious words of our Lord which so tenderly call upon those who are world-weary and yoke-galled by sin to share His gentle yoke and learn to live under the loving restraint of His truth. You expected, rather, a ringing challenge from one of the prophets, the stinging lash of the Baptist or perhaps the soul-probing surgery of the great Apostle.

But these tender words of Christ, as we hope to make clear, are indeed His call to this age—a call to yokeship with Him in Kingdom labor which, if accepted, brings rest of soul but, rejected, brings certain and awful judgment in hope-crushing and heart-breaking burdens, and the galling yoke of sin's servitude.

We in America, these recent years, have been rebels against the yoke of Christ. We have turned away from learning which is constrained by the patterns of righteousness and truth revealed in the Word of God and tested by centuries of history. "Freedom!" has been our watchword; and by freedom we have meant irresponsibility, and ofttimes license. We have desired no yoke, and until yesterday have thought that we could escape its galling restraint. But today we are beginning to question if, after all, we like this yokeless freedom.

Let us scan the background of the present moral and religious confusion.

The New Morality

The "new morality," which has now flowered into full bloom from the seed-sowing of 19th century naturalism, has falsely assumed the innate rightness of human nature, if not its goodness. According to the "new morality," man needs no yoke of restraint. Let him be true to his own nature and he will grow into sweetness and light. Because of the growing dominance of this doctrine the contrary concept of sin is rapidly becoming obsolete, and leaders of the "new morality" are deliberately seeking to eradicate from human experience the consciousness of sin.

The New Education

Under the guidance of the "new morality," a "new education" has likewise developed during recent years. Grounded likewise in the doctrine of nature's rightness, the "new education" focalizes the learner and his experience as the factors of quite exclusive pedagogical concern. Therefore it sets the goal, both of education and of life, by selfish interests rather than by the glory of God and the good of fellow man. Such "yokeless" learning relaxes the tension between duty and inter-

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CONTRIBUTIONS ARE NEEDED

The National Association of Evangelicals for United Action is supported entirely by the voluntary gifts of those who have caught the vision of its great possibilities. The expenses at present are very heavy. Your contribution is needed.

LEADERS CHOSEN IN OHIO, WESTERN AND EASTERN PENNA., MARYLAND, INDIANA, AND MICH.

OHIO ORGANIZES DISTRICT COMMITTEE

Columbus, Ohio. A Regional Conference of the National Association of Evangelicals was held at the Deshler-Wallick Hotel, on September 21st. Representatives of eighteen denominations were present. Dr. Frank Throop, pastor of the Central Presbyterian Church, was chairman of the meeting. Bishop Leslie R. Marston, second vice-president of the Association, President Howard W. Ferrin, of the Providence Bible Institute, Dr. J. Marion Smith, pastor of the First Baptist Church of Muncie, Ind., and Rev. J. Elwin Wright, president of the New England Fellowship, were the speakers.

In the afternoon session, after a full discussion of the movement, the Ohio District was organized, with Rev. O. L. Cooper, D.D., pastor of one of the evangelical churches of Columbus, as the chairman. A representative committee was set up to promote the interest of the organization. A number of conferences to be held in cities throughout the state are contemplated for the coming months.

DR. I. S. YEAWORTH HEADS EASTERN PENNSYLVANIA COMMITTEE

Philadelphia, Pa. Dr. Harold John Ockenga, president of the National Association was present at an all-day Regional Conference here on September 24th and brought a challenging message in behalf of a united front for the Bible-loving organizations of the country. Dr. Ockenga pointed out the danger which confronts the church in its fragmentized condition. He urged Christian leaders to take immediate steps for cooperation as a means of protection against regimentation.

Other speakers included Mr. Howard W. Ferrin, of the Providence Bible Institute, Dr. C. Gordon Brownville, of Tremont Temple, Dr. T. Rowland Phillips, of Arlington Presbyterian Church, Baltimore. Dr. I. S. Yeaworth, pastor of Bethany Temple Presbyterian Church, was chairman of the conference. At a business session, the conference voted to constitute itself into a district of the National Association. This district includes all of Pennsylvania east of the Susquehanna River, also New Jersey from Trenton, southward, and the State of Delaware. A strong committee, representing several denominations, headed by Dr. T. S. Yeaworth, was elected to continue the work of the organization in this area.

SECRETARY EARL S. HAXTER REPORTS ON MARYLAND CONFERENCE

Baltimore, Md. On September 25th, 1942, at the Arlington Presbyterian Church, Baltimore, Maryland, a Regional Conference of Maryland, Delaware, and the District of Columbia was held in the interest of The National Association of Evangelicals for United Action. Sessions were at 10:30 a. m., 2:00 and 7:30 p. m. The speakers were Dr. John Bradbury, of New York, Dr. C. Gordon Brownville, of Boston, Mass., Dr. T. Roland Phillips, of Baltimore, Maryland, Dr. William Ward Ayer, of New York, and Rev. J. Elwin Wright, of Boston, Mass.

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DR. CAREY S. THOMAS
Chairman, Western Pennsylvania District

UNITED EVANGELICAL ACTION

Monthly Bulletin of the National Association of Evangelicals for United Action
$1.00 per year — 5c per copy

JOHN A. HUFFMAN, *Editor*

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New Office

At present all accounts are being handled by Miss Gertrude D. Clark, office manager and assistant treasurer. The new office is Room 521, 120 Tremont St., Boston, Mass.

EVANGELICAL ACTION

A history of the genesis of the National Association of Evangelicals for United Action. Cloth bound, 176 pages. Contains a report of the National Conference at St. Louis, addresses of the principal speakers, constitution, doctrinal statement and policies.

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A Challenging Situation

A unique opportunity is presented to the evangelicals of the country at this time. To fail in taking advantage of it would be tragic.

For the past decade, until recently, there has been a surplus of pastors. Sometimes as many as one hundred would make application for an opportunity to "candidate" when a pulpit became vacant. Suddenly this situation has changed. The war has drained off the surplus and left many churches pastorless. No preacher with a real call, a vision and a message need be longer idle. Now is the time to fill our pulpits with men who believe something.

America may win the war and yet lose the peace unless we have a nation-wide, heaven-sent revival. No better way can be devised to lay the foundation for such a revival than to bring the Word of God to bear upon our populace through a Spirit-filled ministry.

Not only must there be a widespread and well organized effort to win back to faith churches which have followed modernistic heresies because of unfaithful leadership but other ways must be devised as well to save our people from godlessness. Every large city, especially the embarkation ports, should have a Gospel Center for Service men, with evangelistic talent on the part of our young men of the Bible institutes and Christian colleges who may not be qualified, in some instances, for service as chaplains or pastors.

Still another need is appearing on the horizon which challenges the consecration of our young women as well. With the vast plan in the offing to draft hundreds of thousands of women into defense work we will face the problem which is already becoming acute, that of the children who have no proper supervision after school hours while the parents are still in the factories.

There is need for hundreds of day nurseries and receiving homes for children. These could be largely manned by volunteer laborers—consecrated, motherly women who could perform a great service for humanity by offering to help make these homes possible. What an opportunity to teach these children to love God and believe His Word. Here is an opening such as we have not had before because of the impossibility of getting these children into Sunday schools or of bringing the Gospel to them in the day schools. It is not only worthy of our consideration, it demands immediate action.

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AGENTS WANTED

Write for information

DR. JOHN F. FRASER
Chairman of the Baltimore District

The Baptist Convention of the State of Minnesota voted at its annual convention at Worthington, on October 7, to discontinue support to the Federal Council of the Churches of Christ in America The vote was nearly unanimous. The Arizona and Oregon State Conventions recently took similar action.

No person, group of persons, or organization is underwriting the cost of bringing the National Association of Evangelicals for United Action to the point of final organization. The continuance of the work is entirely dependent on the voluntary support of people like yourself who see in it the answer to the need of the hour. Why not send your gift today?

MANY DISTRICTS ORGANIZE

(Continued from page 1)

In attendance were pastors and Christian workers of many denominations. Brother Ferrin of the Providence Bible Institute opened the conference with emphasis upon the importance of prayer. The music was in charge of Rev. Arthur G. Slaght of Baltimore, Maryland.

In the afternoon session, a temporary nominating committee was appointed. It met immediately after adjournment. The nominating committee recommended that the regional district of the National Association of Evangelicals for United Action be comprised of the State of Maryland and the District of Columbia. The committee further recommended that the following be nominated to serve as members of the Executive Committee for this district;

Chairman, Rev. John F. Fraser, 3607 Kimble Rd., Baltimore, Maryland.
Vice Chairman, Rev. C. E. Hawthorne, 512 Ethan Allen Ave., Takoma Park, Md.
Secretary, Rev. Earl S. Haxter, 412 E. Randall St., Baltimore, Maryland.
Treasurer, Mr. C. H. Gundersdorf, 2422 Arunah Ave., Baltimore, Maryland.
Rev. R. T. Phillips, 5105 Denmore Ave., Baltimore, Md.
Rev. R. H. Warren, 3439 Keswick Rd., Baltimore, Md.
Rev. W. T. Lawton, 13 E. Franklin St., Baltimore, Md.
Rev. J. M. Ballbach, Metropolitan Baptist Church, Sixth and A Streets N. E., Washington, D. C.
Mr. Willam C. Bond, 6809 Exfair Rd., Bethesda, Md.

At the evening session, the recommendations of the committee were unanimously adopted.

Being in a position to know the mind of those who attended, it can be said that there never has come to our city a movement more significant, more impressive, and so deeply spiritual as this one. The mind and the spirit of the faithful in Baltimore is that The National Association of Evangelicals for United Action is "The Master's Call to the Colors." The evangelicals of this section who are evangelicals indeed feel that our times demand such an action. The faith once delivered to the saints is still being attacked; the Master calls us to renewed allegiance to the defense of the great truths of the Bible; the Master calls us to practice the great truths; the Master calls to evangelism and to efficient and heroic leadership.

Prayers are ascending to our Father in Christ's name that His will may be done and His work prosper. There is a need. This Association seems to us to be the answer. Blessings in Christ!

REGIONAL CONFERENCE IN DETROIT

Detroit, Mich. The Regional Conference for the State of Michigan was held here on Monday, October 5th. Dr. William C. Coltman, pastor of the Highland Park Baptist Church, was chairman of the gathering. Speakers included Bishop Leslie R. Marston, of Greenville, Ill., Dr. Walter Vail Watson, pastor of the Bethlehem Presbyterian Church, of Buffalo, Dr. Clarence E. Roddy, of Baptist Temple, Brooklyn, and Rev. J. Elwin Wright of Boston.

The meeting was attended by leaders of many denominations and was held at the Book-Cadillac Hotel. Action was taken unanimously in the evening session to organize Michigan as a district of the National Association. Dr. Coltman was named chairman of the district. Serving with him is a strong committee representing several denominations. Plans are being formulated to conduct conferences through the district during the coming months.

PRESIDENT ROBERT LEE STUART OF TAYLOR UNIVERSITY NAMED CHAIRMAN FOR INDIANA

Indianapolis, Ind. The Indiana regional conference of The National Association of Evangelicals for United Action met in Indianapolis for three sessions on Tuesday, Oct. 6, 1942. The city is centrally located for the state, and was the hub of a circle of interest in this new movement. Delegates came from a hundred miles at their own expense to see what The United Evangelical Action had to offer.

Dr. Robert Lee Stuart, president of Taylor University, was chairman of all sessions. In the morning hour, after introducing Rev. J. Elwin Wright, the representative of N. A. E. U. A., Rev. Clarence E. Roddy, pastor of the Baptist Temple of Brooklyn, New York, brought a forceful message on the need for aggressive thinking, living, and dying in the Christian faith. A period of prayer followed.

In the afternoon, Dr. J. Marion Smith brought a devotional message on prayer. A discussion characterized by keen interest followed. This centered around two focal points. One was whether a new organization such as this one was needed, and the other was just what the new organization hoped to accomplish. Those present were of one mind in feeling that a fellowship of evangelicals was definitely indicated with an emphasis on what we could be agreed upon in the doctrines held most dear.

It was the desire of the group to set up a state committee to function with the national group. Rev. W. E. Manges, of the Mennonite Brethren, was appointed chairman of the nominating committee, with Rev. Cletis Brown, of Kokomo, and Rev. T. E. Thompson, of Indianapolis, as other members of the committee.

In the evening session, a number of new delegates came, making necessary a re-statement of objectives of the move-

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CLIPPINGS FROM THE N. A. E. U. A. MAIL BOX

A. F. Ballbach, FoxChase, Philadelphia
"Shall cooperate as much as it shall be possible since I believe heartily in the principles and purposes of the Association."

Rev. Robert L. Carlberg, Allentown, Penna.
"Your letter of August 20th and the invitation to share in the Philadelphia meeting of Sept. 24, has been received. I shall be happy to have fellowship with the brethren and to share in promoting this cause for which I have full sympathy."

J. A. Maxwell, Philadelphia, Penna.
"Of course, I will be glad to do what I can to promote the interest of the N. A. E. for United Action."

J. W. Goodwin, Kansas City, Mo.
"I shall be only too glad to do anything in my power to assist the work of evangelism, and a united action among all of like precious faith."

Rev. Harold B. Oyer, Philadelphia, Pa.
"I shall be very glad to accept the invitation and to cooperate in this work. I have watched the reports of its growth with interest and shall count it a privilege to have an actual part in the continued growth of this Association. May I express my keen appreciation of the positive note that is sounded. I believe this will have an appeal that a negative approach could never have. I can see how this movement may become one of the greatest forces for righteousness that this country has ever witnessed. My prayer is, that under God's blessing, such a thing may materialize."

F. R. Daehler, Globe, Ariz.
"I read with interest your August 1st issue of United Evangelical Action and believe an organization like this is needed through which expression can be given for Conservative Bible-loving Christians."

E. L. Simmons, Cleveland, Tenn.
"You may be assured that whether I am on the committee or not, I shall lend every assistance possible to make the conference a great success. To use a common expression, I am sold on the National Association of Evangelicals for United Action. I think it one of the greatest movements that Evangelical Christianity has made, and every view I can get of its future is optimistic."

Dr. S. M. Laing, Cleveland Heights, Ohio.
"I like the constructive spirit of this Association, and most certainly agree with its statement of doctrine. My very good friend, and former neighbor in Pittsburgh, Dr. J. Alvin Orr, could be identified with nothing less than such honest and clear statement of doctrinal basis!"

Jesse Johnson, Reynoldsburg, Ohio.
"I am in hearty sympathy with the aims of the Association. For many years I have hoped that evangelicals could in some way establish a front in such way that there would be a clearly discernible difference between those who believe and teach the Gospel as God gave it and those who call a mixture of revelation and their human philosophy by the sacred name gospel."

Thos F. Zimmerman, Granite City, Ill.
"Let me assure you that I am definitely interested in the program which you are sponsoring. It was with real interest that I attended the convention which was held in St. Louis this past spring."

Charles W. Koller, Chicago, Ill.
"It was a great pleasure to receive the recent bulletin of United Evangelicals. I am delighted with the fine statement of the attitude which this new organization will take with reference to the Federal Council and other issues involved. I feel a growing confidence in the success of this new venture. Surely there is a great mission for the new organization to fulfill."

W. H. Meredith, Poplar Bluff, Mo.
"I am very glad to know that the work of organization is progressing so nicely. I think everybody interested would subscribe for a paper to give the facts and news of the progress being made and of the battles being fought and won after the organization is completed."

Rockwell S. Brank, Newark, N. J.
"Thanks for the first copy of the United Evangelical Action. I have read it over and like the idea of your association, and very much approve your statement regarding "Contentious Versus Evangelical Christianity." I am quite sure, from long experience, that we get nowhere in attacking the other fellow, but do get somewhere when we continually present our own case affirmatively and without fear. I wish your association success."

N. A. Jepson, Seattle, Wash.
"Thank you so much for your lovely letter and we appreciate what your group are doing. I am sure the Lord will give His strength and wisdom in the direction of these activities. We are glad to know that there are those who stand ready to make clear to the powers that be the right in righteousness of those who otherwise would have no voice."

"I was particularly drawn to the Association not only because of its doctrinal basis and evangelical program but because of the method of procedure, one of action and offense instead of the deplorable defense which evangelicals have been using the past twenty years."—**John C. Williams,** United Presbyterian Church, Princeton, Indiana.

"I am in full sympathy with any group or movement which may be trying to secure 'united action' on the part of the followers of Christ. I know something of the Association and want you to know that I pray the continued blessing of God upon it."

"I have given considerable thought and study to such an Association as you are endeavoring to organize. I feel that it is well worth all the effort that the Evangelical people can put forth to make such a movement a success. It seems that the Evil One is doing all in his power to do away with anything or anyone that is spiritual."—**E. M. Reynolds,** Elkhart, Indiana.

"The United Action cause is a most worthy one and fills a need long felt among the fundamental evangelicals in this nation."—**Otho Jennings,** Dallas, Texas.

"Certainly we need such an organization as has been started by this new group. I am in hearty accord with the policy of presenting a positive testimony before our nation instead of endeavoring to build up a new organization by directly attacking the Federal Council. It seems to me that more will be accomplished by this method in the long run." —**John Reed Miller,** Xenia, O.

"From what I know of the National Association of Evangelicals I am thoroughly in accord with its principles and feel very keenly the need of such united expression." —**Walter Thomas Jackson,** Baltimore, Maryland.

"I am deeply interested in the work that the Association of United Action is doing. I shall be very happy to give as much time to this as possible." —**Alvin A. Harms,** Fairchance, Pennsylvania.

"It is indeed gratifying to learn of the splendid progress that is being made. We trust that by the help of God we will see a mighty exerted force for truth resulting from the continued efforts of the organization. I will be glad if you would keep me informed of the future plans and meetings of the Association. It will be a pleasure to cooperate to the fullest extent in whatever way that I can."—**Thomas F. Zimmerman,** Granite City, Ill.

"I am completely in sympathy with this vital movement and willing to cooperate in any way that I possibly can." —**W. G. Haymaker,** Cleveland, Tennessee.

S. M. Stikeleather, Kingswood, Ky.
"Your last letter reached me here in N. C. yesterday P. M. and I assure you I am ready to do any thing I possibly can for the advancement of the Truth."

"We are so happy about the National Association of Evangelicals for United Avction, and pray God He will send this country a genuine and lasting revival and peace."—**Rev. V. Belisekian,** Newtonville, Massachusetts.

REBELS AGAINST THE YOKE

(*Continued from page 1*)

est by the strangulation of the ideal of duty. Inner conflict subsides in our youth under this program, not through conquest of self in submission to the yoke of duty, but through unresisting surrender of duty to selfishness. Again as in the days of the Greek sophists, man — the individual man — becomes the measure of all things; what he wants, it is right he should have — if he can wrest it from others; what he believes, is true—if he can outwit his rival in debate.

Religion Without a Yoke

In religion, likewise, America has rebelled against the yoke. Not long since, I attended the Protestant church council of a great state conference on social work. About the speakers' table at the dinner session sat several clergymen. The principal speaker of the evening, a layman, was a rather prominent administrator of a school for delinquent boys. This man raised the question, "What is the purpose of a sermon?" One preacher in the circle answered, "To instruct." "No!" the big man objected, "The preacher has no right trying to indoctrinate me. My beliefs are as valid as his." Then I ventured an answer: "The sermon should disturb." But this likewise the speaker rejected. "The purpose of a sermon," he said, "is to *soothe*."

But the great Apostle Paul, foreseeing the time when men would demand religion without a yoke, exhorted his young colleague, Timothy, so to preach as both to instruct and disturb. Hear his words:

"I adjure you to preach the word; keep at it in season and out of season, refuting, checking, and exhorting men; never lose patience with them, and never give up your teaching, for the time will come when people will decline to be taught sound doctrine and will accumulate teachers to

(*Turn to page 4*)

Organizations Totalling Over 47,000 Members Granted Membership

The following organizations were accepted as members to the **National Association of Evangelical Action** by vote of the Executive Committee.

	approximate membership
Minnesota Christian Endeavor Union Chairman, Geo. Quam	30,000
L. I. Holiness Campmeeting Association Chairman, John A. Duryea	150
New England Fellowship—about 1000 cooperating churches Chairman, J. Elwin Wright	
The Norwegian Danish Evangelical Free Church Association of North America Chairman, Arnold T. Olson	3,000-4,000
Trinity Presbyterian Church Chairman, Rev. Bartlett L. Hess, Ph.D.	334
North Reading First Baptist Church Chairman, William Foye	200
Wallingford, Vt., First Baptist Church Chairman, Mrs. Elmer Hopper	48
Court St. Christian Church Chairman, Oren M. Shaw	130
Park St. Congregational Church Chairman, Perrin T. Wilson	1,730
Evangelical Ministers Fellowship approximate membership—all ministers of the N. E. Conf. Chairman, Ivar Sellervaag	
First Free Baptist Church Chairman, Robert R. Edgecomb	160
Marblehead First Baptist Church Chairman, J. S. Sawin	133
East Weare Baptist Church Chairman, J. Hardy Legge	15
First Baptist Church of Asbury Park Chairman, F. Russell Purdy, D.D.	742
Evangelical Free Church Chairman, E. A. Halleen	10,000

MANY DISTRICTS ORGANIZE

(Continued from page 2)

ment. The report of the nominating committee was accepted, and officers elected were:

Chairman, Dr. Robert Lee Stuart, president of Taylor University.

Vice-chairman, Dr. J. Marion Smith, pastor of the First Baptist Church of Muncie.

Secretary, Rev. T. E. Thompson, pastor of the Christian and Missionary Alliance Church, of Indianapolis.

Treasurer, Mr. E. M. Reynolds, a layman of the Mennonite Brethren in Christ, from Elkhart.

Bishop Leslie R. Marston brought the closing message, on the trends in theological circles today.

Two discoveries were made by those who came. One was that there were so many who desired a fellowship of this kind, the other that such a fellowship could be very real. In all, thirteen denominations were represented, with forty-three registered delegates.

REGIONAL CONFERENCE PARTY INVADES THE WEST

Des Moines, Iowa. Crossing the Mississippi River for the first time in the series of Regional Conferences now in progress, the party of speakers came to this city on October 8. Included in the group of leaders were Dr. John Bradbury, Rev. Clarence S. Roddy, Bishop Leslie R. Marston, Rev. Vincent Brushwyler, and Rev. J. Elwin Wright.

The local chairman, Rev. Edward Boone, had made fine preparations. The conference sessions were held in the commodious and centrally located Gospel Temple. Eighteen denominations were represented in the opening session, at which Bishop Marston spoke. The season of prayer which followed was indeed a time of great refreshing.

The afternoon message by Dr. Bradbury set forth the ideology of the organization in a clear and forceful way. Mr. Wright conducted a forum which was of intense interest. Although various points of view were presented there was the finest of feeling and fellowship among all the delegates.

A state committee was organized, with Rev. Edward Boone as the chairman.

Messrs. Roddy and Brushwyler were the evening speakers, bringing messages long to be remembered.

KANSAS CITY REGIONAL MEETING

Kansas City, Mo. Starting in the morning with a small attendance, which became progressively larger as the day advanced, the conference party found a warm response in the hearts of those who had gathered from many points to "look into" the matter of United Action among evangelicals.

The beautiful "Little Theatre" in the Municipal Building was provided by the city as a meeting place for the delegates.

The same party, with one exception, which had been at Des Moines the previous day was in attendance to explain the work. Dr. Alvin G. Hause, prominent Christian leader and pastor of the Bales Avenue Baptist Church, was the chairman. The morning session was addressed by Rev. J. Roswell Flower of the General Council of the Assemblies of God, who brought a convincing and convicting message. The usual pattern of previous conferences was followed in the order of the services.

The eleventh district to be organized was formed in the afternoon and evening sessions. The exact boundaries are yet to be determined, but it is probable that only the western section of Missouri and the eastern section of Kansas will be included.

Plans are being developed for another meeting in Kansas City in early November, to be followed by conferences in other cities in the district.

REBELS AGAINST THE YOKE

(Continued from page 3)

suit themselves and tickle their own fancy." (II Timothy 4:2-3, Moffatt tr.)

Fading Patterns

Most of this audience can recall when the moral thinking of the nation very largely followed the patterns of the Sunday pulpit, the religious press, and the little red schoolhouse, with the family circle the integrating element of these patterns. Today, the little red schoolhouse is gone. The family circle has been broken into fragmentary arcs by the automobile, the bridge-club and the movie. The Sunday paper has smothered to suffocation the church weekly and the Sunday school paper. The Sunday pulpit for most Americans is that narrow, unused sector of the radio dial across which skilled fingers twirl the program selector to bring in the day's baseball game, the latest vaudeville gag, or a breath-taking drama.

Increasingly dominant, likewise, is the motion picture. A group of New England school principals, answering a questionnaire which asked which agency exerts the greatest character-forming influence, school, church, or home, in a strong majority scratched out all three and wrote in "The movies."

Yes, enemies of the yoke have come in like a raging flood, obliterating old patterns of right and wrong and leveling old standards. Home, church, and school, our former bulwarks, have in large measure lost their effectiveness in crumbling disintegration under the assaults of the "new morality."

Paganism, Selfish vs. Militant

Because America has rebelled against the yoke, throwing off the moral and spiritual guides of Christian patterns, she is now a fallow but fertile field, prepared by the tolerance of indifference to receive the seed of pagan propaganda from Europe's weed-patch. During the past generation or more we have taken for granted the Christian basis of our culture, indolently resting in the false security of merely nominal Christianity while consuming our Christian heritage without replacements. Thus paganism has stolen upon us unawares — a soft, indulgent, yokeless idolatry of self which is deaf to the challenge of the heroic and the ideal.

Youth Rebels Against Self-Idolatry

The ringing call of militant paganism has peculiar power to stir youth rebellion against the frustration and deadening paralysis of self-idolatry. Militant paganism the world around is essentially a youth movement. Youth is idealistic, or at least is easily attracted to idealism when it craves a cause demanding sacrifice. Dr. Poling has reported that on his world-tour on behalf of youth a few years ago, he found youth everywhere on the march — marching for some cause that youth felt was bigger than self. Everywhere he went youth was asking, "Isn't there something better than life?—the cause? — the nation?" Again and again, in one form or another, youth asked him the question, "What will a man die for?"

How can we explain this quest of youth for a cause—yes, for a yoke! I once heard E. Stanley Jones tell a youth group, "Do as you like and you will not like what you do; express yourself and you will not like the self you express." Why is this?

We find the answer in the nature of the "self." Properly speaking, a "self" is not a loose aggregation of impulses, caprices and passions flying at cross-purposes. A "self" is the direction of energy within channels, and neither its destructive dissipation in a flood nor its stagnation in a swamp. For the realization of his true "self," man's energies must have banks to restrain and direct them. Reverting to the figure of our lesson, man best realizes himself as free by submitting himself to the restraints of a yoke. Clearly did the Psalmist grasp this truth of freedom through law, of liberty under the yoke, in these lines:

"So shall I keep thy law continually forever and ever. And I will walk at liberty: for I seek thy precepts." (Psalm 119:44, 45.)

But without the restraints of law, of fixed principles of conduct, insecurity and fear grip man; he is lost, unable to find himself because he has no organizing center to give meaning to life. Having energies, but no tracks upon which these energies may run, he experiences frustration if not despair or panic.

And so it happens that modern youth, product of the "new morality" and the "new education," having no convictions, knowing no purpose and therefore lacking inner security, too often in despair turns to the yoke that means galling bondage rather than the rest of freedom. Dorothy Thompson, in the column already mentioned, which reports her interview with four young university graduates, points out that it was of just such rudderless youth in quest of a faith and a cause that Hitler took advantage. And so today, Hitler speaks and millions of youth leap to his call! He has given German youth a cause and tracks for their energies.

Militant Paganism Challenges the Church

The militant paganism that has enlisted the youth of the world is even now bidding for America's youth. Can the Christian church out-bid this strenuous paganism? Certainly not with easy concessions to youth's assumed love of self such as the church has been offering these many years in a despairing effort to compete with self paganism. The church is rapidly losing its youth-appeal at this very point of excessive pampering, just as selfish paganism elsewhere has yielded to militant paganism.

Christian America should blush at the words of a Russian youth, reported by Bishop Cushman — blush that it has failed to challenge American youth for Christ as Stalin has challenged Russian youth for Moloch! Dr. Cushman relates that when traveling in Russia, his group encountered a member of the organization of "godless" youth, who said, "Our organization is fighting three things, sex impurity, liquor, and tobacco." Someone asked, "Why are you fighting these things?" The young atheist answered, "We young people can't afford to waste our money or our health when we have on our hands the job of making a new Russia." (Ralph S. Cushman, *I Have a Stewardship.*" Abingdon, 1939.)

But, will American youth respond to the challenge of yokeship with Christ? It will, if the church sincerely presents that challenge. Witness the recent editorial in the *Daily Iowan*, student newspaper of the University of Iowa, a half-page spread addressed as "An Open Letter to the Faculty and Administration" under the caption, TAKE US BACK TO SOLID GROUND. The editorial reads in part:

> "We are afraid of hard work; you never taught us to love it. We can't accept responsibility; you couldn't before us. We don't know the meaning of discipline; you didn't discipline us. . . . We want constant training in the constant things of life. . . . We want to get our teeth into something vibrant and alive, something permanent, something which ties the present to the truths of a glorious past. We want discipline in the job of living."

Nor is this plea from one university campus the sole evidence that American youth is groping for a yoke. *Harpers* for February, 1941, carried a significant article by Doris Drucker, "Authority for Our Children," reporting the results of a survey of college youth across the nation which show that young people today desire guidance, authority, and the knowledge of right and wrong. According to this survey, college young people consider that in their high school years they had too little guidance from school, church and home. These young people hold the home especially responsible for the authority they needed but didn't have. The author comments that perhaps for the first time in modern history a youth generation clamors not for more freedom, "but wants less freedom and more security."

A week ago today I attended a conference in Washington of church leaders called to plan the organization of a united Protestant program for the religious welfare of our men in the armed forces. There I heard men who were in a position to know the psychology of the soldier contend for a Christian commitment card which pledged the difficult. Others less familiar with the temper of the soldier in this war would phrase the commitment in nominal terms.

Youth For Christ— Or Moloch!

Yes, in clearly discernible measure, American youth is beginning to ask for a yoke, and in the years just ahead youth will find and accept some yoke, some cause which challenges to heavy sacrifice even unto death. To win against Moloch, the church must sound to youth a greater challenge, the challenge of the Cross, which means yokeship with Christ. Deeper than the sacrifices demanded by the national emergency must be the consecration of youth to Christ and youth's dedication to a Christian world program. Otherwise, this war's outcome, even with victory of arms on the field of battle and of diplomacy at the peace table, will but speed America's conquest by Moloch. Nothing short of personal surrender to Christ multiplied in millions of lives, and world-vision of the Christian mission, can save this generation from crass paganism and the next from savagery.

Can we capture this tide of loyalty for Christ and His Church? Or will youth conclude because of the church's indifference to Christ that the goal of its quest is not to be sighted through the church, and youth's loyalty then swing some other way? Youth is *now* "ready for great dedications"; we must win youth to Christ's yoke today; tomorrow will be too late.

May the Spirit of our Christ now revive the church to that strength by which again she will challenge youth to noble and heroic sacrifice! The answer to the present peril is a national-wide revival.